**Improvement in quality of drinking water**

722. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inspite of sincere efforts by the Central Government, the States have not improved the quality of drinking water;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether guidelines issued by Government to States for routine analysis of samples for physio-chemicals and microbial quality are not being followed by States; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir. 96.13% of the 14,22,303 rural habitations in the country have been fully covered, and 3.55% partially covered with safe drinking water supply as per the stipulated norms.

(b) Due to overexploitation of groundwater and other factors, some of the drinking water sources become chemically contaminated and unsafe. The number of water quality affected habitations in the country as on 31.3.2004, as reported by State Governments in response to water quality survey ordered in March, 2000 is 2,16,968.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The quality of drinking water of various sources is periodically monitored by the District Water Quality Testing Laboratories set up by States and other available laboratories with reference to the water quality standards laid down by the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission (RGNDWM) as per IS:10500 standard. A community based rural drinking water monitoring and surveillance programme has also been pilot-tested in four districts of the country for scaling up throughout the country.

**Depletion of ground water level**

723. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
PROF. R.B.S. VARMA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the marked depletion in ground water level in

different States and vast regions, Government have taken any steps to launch a nation-wide campaign to raise ground water level, by way of conventional methods of creating and restoring tanks, ponds, lakes, wells and baolis and rain harvesting;

(b) if so, whether any comprehensive plan of action has been prepared or is being worked out for the purpose, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the Central aid given to and sought by different States for augmenting water bodies during 2004-05 and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) "Water" being a State subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments to formulate plans for augmenting water resources and to launch campaign to raise ground water level. However, the following steps have been taken by the Union Government in this direction:—

(i) Circulation of Manual/Guidelines on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend of ground water levels.

(ii) Launching of a website on Roof Top Rain Water Harvesting (www.cgwb.net) to make aware and educate the public about various techniques of harvesting rainwater and store it for future use.

(iii) Organisation of mass awareness programmes and training courses on rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge of ground water.

(iv) Rain Water Harvesting campaign has been launched keeping in view the various target groups like youth and children, women, farmers and villagers, policy and opinion makers. Publicity through print media, telecasting of spots on the television, broadcasting messages on radio, holding of seminars, workshops, conferences etc., have been undertaken for the purpose.

(v) All the States/UTs have been requested to provide water harvesting structures in buildings under their administrative control. In addition, Central Ministries/Departments of Railways, Defence, Posts, Telecommunications, Central Public Works Department and National Highways Authority of India have been requested to provide

roof top rain water harvesting structures in the buildings under their control.

(vi) CGWB has provided technical guidance on rain water harvesting to around 2000 agencies, including State Government agencies, educational institutions, private entrepreneurs and individuals.

(vii) The Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation, Government of India have amended Building Bye-laws, 1983, making provision for water harvesting through storing of water run-off including rain water in all new buildings on plots of 100 square meters and above in Delhi mandatory. Similarly, State Governments of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Rajasthan and Kerala have made roof top rain water harvesting mandatory in specified cases.

(viii) During the IX Plan, CGWB have implemented successfully artificial recharge projects under the Central Sector Scheme for "Study of Recharge to Ground Water" in 27 States/UTs in the country. The CGWB has also prepared a report entitled "Master Plan for Artificial Recharge to Ground Water", which envisages recharge of 36453 Million Cubic Meter volume of surplus monsoon runoff, through construction of 39.25 lakhs artificial recharge and roof top rain water harvesting structures.

In addition to the above, the Union Government has also approved in January, 2005 a Pilot scheme on "National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of Water Bodies Directly linked with Agriculture" with a total outlay of Rs. 300 crore for implementation during the remaining period of Tenth Five Year Plan with a funding pattern of 75:25 (Centre: State).

(b) and (c) Under the above scheme, projects are to be taken up in one or two districts each in the States. The States are to take up restoration of water bodies having original irrigation cultivable command area of 40 hectare upto 2000 hectare to revive, augment and utilize their storage and irrigation potential on the basis of the Detailed Project Report (DPR) submitted by the States. The Ministry of Water Resources has approved 22 district projects of 13 States at an estimated cost of Rs. 202.98 crores so far. The details of Central share sought by the States and Central share released so far are given in the enclosed statement.

***Statement***

*Details of Central Share sought by States and Central Share released during 2004-05 and 2005-06 under the pilot scheme of "National Project for Repair, Renovation and Restoration of water bodies directly linked to Agriculture"*

(Rs. in Crore)

| Sl. No. | Name of State | Name of District | Sanctioned Cost | Current status | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Central Share sought by States during 2004-05 | Grants released in 2004-05 | Central share sought by States during 2005-06 | Grants released in 2005-06 |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | Mahabub Nagar | 32.84 | 9.975 | 2.44 | 5.40 | 2.70 |
| | | Anantpur | 13.77 | | | 10.325 | 5.1625 |
| 2. | Karnataka | Gulbarga | 35.537 | 4.75 | 4.42 | | |
| | | Bangalore Rural | 19.42 | 1.65 | 1.00 | 22.50 | |
| 3. | Jharkhand | Saraikela | 3.14 | | 0.33 | 1.2975 | 0.649 |
| | | Palamu | 11.06 | 1.50 | 1.17 | 1.050 | 0.525 |
| 4. | Chhattisgarh | Kabir Dham | 2.236 | | | | 0.75 |
| 5. | Orissa | Ganjam | 12.82 | 1.6875 | 1.14 | 9.9975 | |
| | | Gajapati | 6.01 | | 0.55 | | |
| 6. | Rajasthan | Ajmer | 4.489 | | | 1.62 | 1.125 |
| | | Pali | 2.45 | | | 0.90 | 0.75 |
| 7. | West Bengal | Uttar Dinajpur | 4.934 | | 0.74 | 1.125 | 0.565 |
| | | South-24 Paraganas | 18.664 | 0.9525 | 0.21 | 2.400 | 1.20 |
| 8. | Tamil Nadu | Sivagangai | 1.222 | | | 3.975 | 0.458 |
| | | Villupuram | 9.372 | | | | 3.5145 |
| 9. | Madhya Pradesh | Tikamgarh | 3.923 | | | 1.3995 | 0.70 |
| 10. | Himachal Pradesh | Mandi | 1.0401 | | | 0.312 | 0.156 |
| 11. | Jammu & Kashmir | Kupwara | 3.0588 | | | 1.275 | 0.6375 |
| 12. | Kerala | Palakkad | 1.3753 | | | 0.60 | 0.30 |
| | | Pathanamthitta | 1.404 | | | 0.526 | |
| 13. | Gujarat | Sabarkantha | 6.5512 | | | 2.654 | |
| | | Banaskantha | 7.6653 | | | 3.10 | |
| TOTAL | 13 | 22 | 202.9617 | 20.515 | 12.00 | 70.4565 | 19.1925 |